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Newsletter Number 02 15 February 2013



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Thanks

.. to those parents who dropped by to support this week's triathlons ..
and to Murray Healey and his team (from TriKids) for an excellent few days.

.. to those parents who have volunteered to help out in rooms this year.
.. to those awesome parents who have offered to help with the timing of swimming trials on 25 February.

People of the week

.. Claudio Schmid who was pretty brave this week when he injured his foot .. and Mrs Greenfield who provided great support (literally).

.. Our new teachers who have worked so hard to learn new names, systems etc. Great to have you on board.

.. Olivia Morgan who has been very supportive of a girl needing friendship this week.

.. Ellie Datson who qualified for "Horse of the Year" event.

Please keep us informed of the achievements of present and past pupils so that we can celebrate these together.

Congratulations

.. to our triathlon place getters!

Mobile Ear Clinic

.. will be outside the Bush Road Medical Centre 8:30-3:30 Wednesday 27 February. No appointments necessary. Pre-schoolers welcome.

Sunhats

A reminder that school broad brimmed sunhats are compulsory in terms 1 and 4. There are still a few children coming to school without these and so please check their schoolbags each day. We also recommend sun safe T-shirts .. and sunblock at your discretion.

Mr Delemare

We are pleased to advise that Mr Delemare has had a very successful operation and is rearing to get back to school. He is grateful for the concern and support of others. We are looking forward to having him back on deck .. **but will encourage him to take the necessary time to rest before his return.**

From last week .. in brief .. please ..

.. advise the office by 9:00 AM of any absences for that day.
.. children arriving after 9:00 AM to report to the office on arrival.
.. try to get children to school to school at least 15 minutes before bell.
.. advise the office by 2:45 PM of any change in pick up arrangements or if your child will not be travelling on their usual bus.
.. stationery is available from the school office throughout the year.
.. keen to talk to anyone willing to help out with the school garden.
.. check at home for school books from last year and return these to school next week

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar. We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

18 Feb	Likely start date for after school labs
22 Feb	Learner Journey sheets home for parent input
25 Feb	Swimming heats (preparatory to school and zone events)
25/26 Feb	Parent/teacher/student conferences
27 Feb	Tennis Doubles Tournament (pp 29.2)
4 March	Zone Swimming Sports at Kokopu School
6 March	School Swimming Sports
11 March	Year 7 and 8 camp to Auckland
12 March	Interschool Swimming Sports
26 March	Year 4 to 6 Summer Sports Tournament
29 March	Good Friday
1/2 April	Easter Monday and Tuesday
19 April	Final day term 1

Senior Camp to Auckland

A small number of children have not returned their camp consents. Please get these to school as soon as possible. Any questions in the run up to camp to Mrs Donaldson please.

School Contributions / Trips and Events Fee

The Board is grateful for payment of school contributions and is committed to using these in ways which add value to your children's learning - in this regard it is a little unique as a donation, as we want you to get something concrete in return. Your contributions help to lower teacher / pupil ratios, enable us to employ additional teacher aides, expand special needs hours, subsidise buses & visiting drama groups & so forth. Contributions may be paid in one instalment at year's commencement (\$90 per child) or \$25 per term. The trips and events fee is a more efficient and convenient alternative to the usual collection of smaller amounts throughout the year. While this can also be paid quarterly, we do prefer full payment at the beginning of the year if this is possible.

If feeling financially stretched at the moment parents are welcome to contact Kevin to discuss alternative payment arrangements. You will find us accommodating and discreet.

PMP -

PMP will start for Rooms 3-6 on Week 3. Sessions will be Tuesday and Wednesday from 1.30-3.00pm. If you are able to help at these sessions please contact Rachael Robertson.

Triadic Conferences (parent / teacher / student interviews)

The above are scheduled for 25 and 26 February - information on how to book has been sent home today. Please note that appointment slots are allocated on a first in basis. Parents are encouraged to attend these interviews with their child or to make an alternative appointment if these days do not suit. Conferences are an opportunity to talk about your child specifically, to see how they have settled, to note any concerns, and to set some targets. This is a chance for you and your child (optional for year 1 children) to be heard and to hear some first impressions of how their year is unfolding.

Learner Journey Sheets

.. will be sent home next week. These enable you and your child to be part of setting key learning goals .. and to teach them the importance of goal setting. More to follow!

Early Buses - early notice that buses will run 30 minutes early on 25 and 26 Feb because of parent interviews. Parents who transport their children by car are asked to pick them up at 2.30 PM please on these days.

Indicator Reports

In earlier years we have sent indicator reports home in advance of interviews. **This year these reports will be viewed and discussed (with the teacher) on a screen at interviews** .. preparatory to confirming your child's learning targets for the next 6 months. These reports will help to identify your child's strengths and weaknesses against age specific indicators (including the National Standards). If you would like a hard copy of the Indicator Report please request this from your child's teacher at your interview. Ultimately we will be looking at ways of opening a "portal" to our web based student management system allowing you direct access to some of your child's achievement data at certain times of the year .. we will keep you posted on developments.

Homework

Homework is **encouraged but optional** at Matarau School. For most children this will mean 4 nights homework a week (around 20 minutes each night) with most of this time spent on word learning, maths basic facts and reading, with one activity related to their class programme. Parents should feel free to advise their child's teacher if the load needs to be lightened for any reason or if they wish their child excused from homework altogether. This saves tension and time wasted chasing homework. **If you do NOT want your child to receive homework please advise their teacher NEXT week.** If you are on board please set a regular time and place and advise us if we can help with any "speed wobbles" along the way. Let's start as we mean to continue by getting routines well established.

(Although the research is a little inconclusive we believe that regular homework routines lead to better performance and a better preparation for secondary school for most children).

Tennis doubles Tournament - 27.2

If your child received a consent for this event please return this to school as soon as possible. Please note that parents are required to provide / arrange supervision for their own child on this day. Any questions please to Mrs Sinclair.

After School Labs

.. will start **from 18 March** and will run throughout the year. This programme has been expanded and, as in earlier years, there will be no cost to parents. "By invitation" indicates we wish to prioritise those we think will most benefit from these programmes .. "open" means largely allocated on a first in basis. **Please note that the school may be making a limited number of places available to students from other schools on a charge basis (with funds used to buy learning resources for the wider school).** So if you know of interested families (with children not attending our school) please advise our school office .. Matarau students will still be placed at no cost. Labs will (most likely) be as follows ..

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
1 session pw (likely Wednesday)	Grammar, punctuation, sentence building, proof reading skills (Mr T) By invitation	Science Labs (Mrs D) Open	Grammar, punctuation, sentence building, proof reading skills (Mr T) By invitation Poetry (Mr D) Open	Science Labs (Mrs D) Open
2 sessions pw (likely Mon and Thurs)	Maths Number knowledge and key strategies (Mrs D) By invitation	ICAS Mon – English Thurs – Maths (Mr S) open	SRA Reading Labs (Mr S) By invitation Maths?? (Mrs D) By invitation	Tech challenges and problem solving etc. (Mr S) Invitation / Open ?

More on the labs

We need some information from parents at this early stage ..

1. A number of parents were not able to secure a place for their child in science labs last year and were told they would be prioritised this year. If this relates to you, and you are still keen for your child to be placed, (check days above) please advise Kevin next week.
2. If your child was placed in the maths labs last year they will be prioritised for placement in the initial labs for 2013 just to make sure gains have been sustained and to get them off to the best possible start in 2013. If you **DO NOT** want your child in these labs and **THEY WERE** in these labs last year, please advise Kevin next week so we can make their place available to another child.
3. If your child has been recommended for the Grammar or maths labs you will hear from us within the next few weeks.

Pool Keys

The pool will be available for public use. Hire keys are available from the school office at \$25 per family for the 2012 swimming season. Those who held their key last year in anticipation of using again this year should have received an invoice this week. Please send the money in asap. Many thanks.

Bus Safety

Parents are reminded that motor vehicles are required to reduce their speed to 20km per hour when passing a stationary bus.

Term Headlice Inspection

.. will take place on Friday 22 February with a follow up the week after. Please thoroughly check your child's hair in advance of this and treat where necessary. **Thanks again to those helping out with the inspections.**

Swimming Trials

Parents of year 3 children who would like their children to participate in the competitive races at our school swimming sports (as opposed to the usual junior water confidence activities) are asked to advise their child's teacher early next week - we will then include these children in the time trials.

Parent Helpers

Thank you to those who have offered to help out at school this year. A Parent Helpers Roster has been sent home today and we are hoping to have you up and running from this coming Monday. If you have made arrangements directly with your child's teacher please call at the office before starting for some printed information on guidelines and safeguards for helping out at school.

Medical Forms/Address/Contact Details

On enrolment parents provide important details on contacts / custody issues / medical conditions / medications etc. Please continue throughout the year to keep us informed so that we can properly discharge our duty of care to your child(ren).

Some medications should be held at, and administered from, the school office. Please contact us if unsure.

Where we currently hold medication for your child please call by the office within the next 2 weeks to check expiry dates and arrange replacement where necessary.

Creating optimal conditions for learning (a final reminder .. and in brief)

- .. drinking plenty of water (water bottle at school).
- ... a good nights sleep.
- .. a suitable breakfast and healthy lunch.
- .. plenty of interest in what your child is doing at school.
- .. time to play

Guitar Lessons

There are a number of vacancies in this popular after school programme (Wednesday & Thursday in the Old School Room - by the upper car park). Cost \$20 per lesson. Vangie has a spare guitar for kids trying out. If interested please phone Vangie on 434 7573 or 021 1883251, or email killalea@ihug.co.nz

Monday and Friday Lunches

.. started this week. Order forms available from the office. Please give Helen a call if you can spend 10 minutes in the morning and/or 15 minutes around mid-day to help with heating and distribution of items. Thank you.

Mondays - \$3.00 : Baked Beans or Spaghetti served with toast & a juice, or Chicken or Beef Cup of Noodles & a juice. Order at the office by morning tea on Monday.

Wednesdays - \$1.50 : for Sausage in a bread with sauce. Order on Wednesday mornings through the class teacher.

Fridays - \$4.00 : Hot Mince or Mince 'n' Cheese Pie, Jumbo Sausage Roll or Sausage Roll (with Museli Bar), Butter Chicken or Mince n Cheese Wraps and a Fruit Drink. You can swap the Fruit drink for a Flavoured Milk for \$4.50. Order by Wednesday at the office, to receive Friday. Term orders available, see attached form.

2nd Hand/Outgrown Clothing

If any parents of Year 3 and under have any secondhand or outgrown boy's shorts that you would be happy to donate to the Junior School it would be most appreciated. Please drop into the office or see Mrs Marvin in Room 3.

FOUND remote controlled helicopter. Flew into the bush area near Matarau Road back in January. Phone Mary Finlayson 437 0441 / 0274 525 398

If interested ..

.. in yoga classes in our school hall for as little as \$5.00 a lesson on a Wednesday after school please give Susan Pryor a call on 094339578 or 0212084167 (this is a much reduced rate and Susan is well qualified for this role). There is some interest already but numbers need to lift somewhat for this to be viable. Susan is more than happy to answer any questions.

Newsletter .. a reminder to let Helen know if you would like to receive your newsletter by email.

Finally

"My life has no purpose, no direction, no aim, no meaning, and yet I'm happy. I can't figure it out. What am I doing right?" Charles M Schulz b 1922

Regards
Kevin Trehwella
PRINCIPAL

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children, please support them

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COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kamo Swimming Club – Stroke Improvement lessons start again this afternoon..4.30pm Friday 8th February. And thereafter Monday & Friday afternoons til end of March. Some vacancies still available this season. Great fitness for the more able swimmers, plus stroke correction.

Kamo Junior Rugby is holding its Rally day on Thursday Feb 28th at the Kamo Clubrooms, Butler Place, Kamo.JBN to JB3 from 5.00 to 6.30 pm (5 to 9 years old) JB4 to JB8 from 6.30 to 8.00 pm (9 to 15 years old), Coaches & Managers Welcome. Any question please phone or Txt Murray Mortimer on 029 7525970.

Comrie Park Tennis Club - The Matarau Tennis Club would like to remind you that we have some fabulous courts available for a very small annual key fee of \$75.00. Club Night is held on Monday evening's from 5.30pm. If you would like to know more about club night or express an interest please contact Sean Parker by email: seanparker.nz@gmail.com If you're interested in becoming a member please contact Robyn McKegg by mail: russrob@xtra.co.nz or phone 4335 501.

Tauraroa Area School Inter-School Motorcyle Competition – Sun 24 March, McCarroll's Property, 69a Cassidy Road, Paparoa, Cost \$20 per rider (incl sausage and drink for lunch). 4 riders per team. Jnrs up to 8yrs, Snrs yr 9 to 13, Mixed 1 adult, 2 yr 9-13 & 1 up to yr 8. registration forms or more info contact Brenda Sinclair at the School Office.

Holee Cow Drama Classes - Tuesdays @ the Old Library, Rust Ave, Whangarei 4pm 7-9yrs 5pm 10-12yrs 6pm 13yrs up. Focus will be on voice and movement, with fun and improvisation as key elements to the classes! Contact lizsugrue@hotmail.com and go to www.holeecow.co.nz for more info!

Babysitting/Casual work wanted

Ex Matarau student, experienced youth leader, newly returned from gap year looking for casual babysitting or other work. Responsible, organized, rates to suit. Have full driver's licence so can pick up from Matarau school if required. Please contact Kiri on 02108110255 or 4350230

Flatmate Wanted – 1 room to rent in Hikurangi \$80 per wk (negotiable) + power. You can have the use of the garage too. I'm a nightshift person, so I'll see you in the weekends. You'll have to cook for yourself. Phone Glenis 0220337812.



Emma from Room 8 riding in this week's
School Triathlon

FRIDAY SCHOOL LUNCHES

HAVE A DAY OFF MAKING LUNCHES AND SUPPORT THE SCHOOL!

- ☺ Below is an order form for **Friday** lunches.
- ☺ These can be ordered for the term in advance, or weekly if desired.
- ☺ Please have weekly orders placed at the school office by the Wednesday to receive an order the following Friday.
- ☺ Please make cheques payable to Matarau School.

Thanks for supporting our fundraiser.

WEEKLY ORDER FORM – Term 1 2013

Child _____

___ Sausage Roll/Muesli Bar/Drink \$4.00
___ Big Daddy Sausage Roll/Drink \$4.00
___ Milk Drink - extra 50c

Room _____

___ Mince Pie or Mince N Cheese/Drink \$4.00
___ Mince N Cheese or Butter Chicken Wrap/Drink \$4.00

Child _____

___ Sausage Roll/Muesli Bar/Drink \$4.00
___ Big Daddy Sausage Roll/Drink \$4.00
___ Milk Drink - extra 50c

Room _____

___ Mince Pie or Mince N Cheese/Drink \$4.00
___ Mince N Cheese or Butter Chicken Wrap/Drink \$4.00

Child _____

___ Sausage Roll/Muesli Bar/Drink \$4.00
___ Big Daddy Sausage Roll/Drink \$4.00
___ Milk Drink - extra 50c

Room _____

___ Mince Pie or Mince N Cheese/Drink \$4.00
___ Mince N Cheese or Butter Chicken Wrap/Drink \$4.00

Child _____

___ Sausage Roll/Muesli Bar/Drink \$4.00
___ Big Daddy Sausage Roll/Drink \$4.00
___ Milk Drink - extra 50c

Room _____

___ Mince Pie or Mince N Cheese/Drink \$4.00
___ Mince N Cheese or Butter Chicken Wrap/Drink \$4.00

Child _____

___ Sausage Roll/Muesli Bar/Drink \$4.00
___ Big Daddy Sausage Roll/Drink \$4.00
___ Milk Drink - extra 50c

Room _____

___ Mince Pie or Mince N Cheese/Drink \$4.00
___ Mince N Cheese or Butter Chicken Wrap/Drink \$4.00

TERM ORDER - Total Amount Owing For Term 4 - 8 Wks Maximum Available

Items @ \$4.00 x _____ weeks =

Items @ \$4.50 x _____ weeks =

In the case of a child's absence from school and instructions to the contrary, we are unable to refund or provide a lunch on a subsequent week.

VOLUNTARY PARENT HELPERS 2013

Dear Parents

As advised in the main newsletter, we are keen to involve willing parents in the general life of the school. We all know the difference that a team of dedicated parents can make to the efficiency of the school and the learning of children. If you can possibly spare some time (even an hour or two a week) please do so.

In order to get things up and running as soon as possible please complete the form below and return it to school by 14 February (or later by request). Flexibility is appreciated but we will also make efforts to accommodate your particular skills and interests. No special knowledge or skill is expected simply a willingness to get involved. **WE ARE ESPECIALLY KEEN TO ADD PARENTS TO OUR REGULAR PMP TEAM.**

I will confirm your role / days / times etc. within the next week or two and hope to get you started by week 3. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions. Any commitment of time is very much appreciated.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

A) I would like to help at school on the following day(s) / time(s) Please tick

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9:00-10:30					
11:00-12:30					
1:30-3:00					

I would like to help in the following room(s) Please tick

		Rm 2		Rm 3		Rm 4		Rm 5		Rm 6	
Rm 7		Rm 8		Rm 9		Rm 10		Rm 11		Rm 12	
		Office		School Lunches		Calf Club Comm.		Book club orders		Library	
P.M.P.		Making resources at home		Swimming club		Netball		Canteen -		Lunchtime sport	

I also have the following skills / interests I would be keen to share if the need arises ..
